

From: Jerry Rowe
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 11:56pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir,

I am concerned that the Mcirosoft settlement rendered will be too mild to be a remedy at all. I firmly believe that the federal govnerment has the right to regulate Microsoft under tha Constitution since they do business outside the state of Washington.

I have personally been affected by Micorsoft's monopoly since the days of DOS. At one time I attempted to purchase a computer with "DRDos 6.0", a competing version of an operationg system. However the computer manufacturer admitted to me that they could not provide it because Microsoft would force them out of business if they sold just a single copy of DRDos with a computer instead of Microsoft's MSDOS.

And it continues today, such that Microsoft makes it nearly impossible for the average person to purchase a computer without Microsoft software.

I fear that without severe restraint, Microsoft will infiltrate its monopoly throughout the US economy and become impossible to restrain, and the quality and price will become disadvantageous to the user.

I work in the computer support industry full time as a server and workstation support expert, and have much experience in these matters.

I just read a very good article by Judge Bork, and feel he covers the subject well when he said:

[<http://www.linuxplanet.com/linuxplanet/opinions/4020/1/>]

"The end game, of course, is as the end game always is in such situations: unhindered, Microsoft would, its monopoly not just established but enshrined, begin to get rid of its own people, and reduce the utility of its products, and charge more for them, because what other choice would we have? The monopolist, absent competition, has no reason to strive for excellence. Oops, innovation."

"Again, Microsoft moving on the Internet has the potential of locking us out. The only reason they haven't done this yet is that their products are so shoddy and unsecure that they've failed -- the company has overreached. It is unlikely to make the same mistake next time."

"All that is at stake is our freedom, in a real, down-to-earth, palpable sense of the word. Which is something that has meaning to all of us, none more than to those of a conservative bent, who did after all in

their strict constructionist way go to so much trouble, lose so much treasure, and shed so much of their own blood in the course of inventing the idea of individual freedom 225 years ago."

Thanks for your attention to these matters.

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Marion, Indiana.

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